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DOCKET NO: 274618US0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

:

SHOICHI KIKUCHI, ET AL.

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION  
(BASED ON PCT/JP04/00330)

:

FILED: HEREWITH

:

FOR: METHOD FOR PRODUCING  
METALLIC IRON

:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.